

Richard Lloyd Jones tells Us To Speed Up Safety.



EVER since the advent of the steam engine we have been speeding up, and while that speed has come with inestimable benefit, it has not come without its measure of attendant harm. When the legislature of New York was first asked to grant a franchise for eighteen miles of steam railroad, the right to build this first railroad was not granted without a bitter opposition which contended that it would be unsafe because the engine would scare so many horses that an unwarranted toll of death would result.

The railroad came and those who opposed it were right in their death toll predictions. The engines did scare the horses. There were runaways, and what is worse, there were wrecks on the rails and an ever-increasing list of accidents have been recorded as the iron ribbed mileage multiplied.

But for all this we would not erase the railroads from our maps; we would not go back to the days when even a king would cry "My kingdom for a horse."

The thrashing machine has cost many a thrasher an arm. But we would not go back to the days when we flayed grain on the floor.

Mill machinery and foundry furnaces take their human toll. But we cannot do without them.

We fly sky-high and all too often we read of a fallen flyer. It is the price we pay to learn how with safety to use the swifter way.

The auto brings its price in limb and life. We pay it and speed away.

We have been impatiently seeking speed. With the same impatience we must seek safety. The cost of speed has reached such alarming proportions that the "Safety First" slogan was born.

Observe we did not cry "Cut it out," nor did we

even plead to "Slow down." We do not want to slacken, much less to stop. On the contrary, we want to speed up. That is progress. But we must speed up safety.

The National Safety Council reports that the compiled figures of preventable accidents in 1920 show a death toll of as many people as live in the State of Nevada. In other words, in one year we wiped out by accident one whole State. That means that it is time to STOP something. It is not speed we should stop. We must stop recklessness.

The man-eating thrashing machine has gone out of fashion. But the fool at the auto wheel is busy. Fatalities from reckless auto driving average thirty deaths a day. We have speed laws, but they are defiantly disobeyed and the violators when arrested are too often dismissed with a modified reprimand or a petty fine.

To endanger the life of another is not a light or laughing matter.

We must adjust ourselves to the auto as the horse did to the train. We make the train run on schedule, limit its speed on curves, slow down at the sign of caution and come to a full stop at the STOP sign. So must we make every auto driver do.

There is but one way to do it, and that is for every community to impose drastic penalty for every offender and for every community to promptly get rid of any officer that fails to arrest the offenders and every judge and magistrate that will not impose the full penalty of the crime.

If it is a crime to take life, it is a crime to endanger life. Speed up safety. It is the duty of every town and county government to get indignantly busy on this all important job. We cannot spare our people in whole state-full lots.

Mrs. Jessie W. Sawyer, her daughter Hazel; her brother-in-law, J. T. Sawyer, and Alfred Youmans, good people from DeLand, who were guests of George W. Gatewood and family since Wednesday, left in their car this morning for Tampa and Saint Petersburg on a pleasure trip.

Rev. Howard Duttill came down from Wauchula, Wednesday night, and next day moved his belongings in an auto truck to that city. Many friends regret that he was not continued as pastor of the local Methodist church, but it seems that he desired another appointment.

Many friends here deeply sympathize with Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Swartz of Gainesville, in the loss of their dear little baby, Grace, age eighteen months, which died of diphtheria Tuesday. The child was seized with the dread malady on Christmas day, and in spite of the best medical attention and the most careful nursing by parents and friends, passed away as stated. She was the idol of her parents, who are heartbroken over her loss. Mrs. Swartz was formerly Miss Anna Mae Laubach, and she spent her girlhood here.

Amongst the many young folks who are working in other places and who came home and enjoyed a two-days holiday (Sunday and Monday) feasting with their parents and other kindred, the following were noted by the reporter: Mrs. A. B. McCrea (formerly Miss Thelma White), from Jacksonville; Miss Hattie Heusted, from Dade City; Miss Pearl Williams, from Tampa; Miss Elizabeth Mayes, from Tampa; Miss Myrtle Jack, from Avon Park; Emmet Riley, from Eagle Lake, and Tom Turner, from Mulberry. Tom's parents, however, live at Mulberry, and he came only to see his best girl.

Amongst relatives who enjoyed the holidays at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Wheeler at Charlotte Harbor were: J. J., Joe and Henry Wheeler of Pineland; Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Walden and family of Crystal Springs, and Carl and Martin Samson of Seffner. F. L. Walden and Martin Samson returned to their work in Tampa, Monday, but Mrs. Walden, with her children, will remain a week longer as the guest of her sister, Mrs. Wheeler. All of the visitors expressed themselves as having had one of the most delightful Christmases of their lives.

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Phone 21 or 23

Get it at
Mc CLELLAND'S
The House That Appreciates Your Trade



Pepper Seed
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We buy direct from the grower and this means you save all middlemen's profits.

A. P. HATCH
Groceries, Fruits and Vegetables

TOWN TOPICS OF A WEEK

The Important Happenings of Punta Gorda and Vicinity Briefly Told

Pay your poll tax quick.
"I Am The Law." adv.
Hurry, hurry! Pay your poll tax.
"I Am The Law." adv.
Miss Carrie Lewis visited Arcadia, Saturday evening.
"I Am The Law." adv.
Mrs. W. R. DeLoach is spending a few hours in Arcadia today.
Fort Myers was favored with a short visit Wednesday, from Adolph Rickenbach.
Watch and clock repair shop at R. M. King's. 48-3t
Miss Elizabeth Cooper brightened Fort Myers with her presence for a few hours, Wednesday.
Gordon Page of Wauchula, was here in his car Sunday, when he was cordially greeted by many friends.
Board by the week, day or meal at Smith hotel and cafe. Reasonable rates. 46-4f
Mrs. C. F. Curry, accompanied by her two children, went to Pine Level this morning, on a visit to relatives and friends.
Miss Effie Goulding, who teaches school at McCall, is here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Goulding, and her sisters.

Don't put off paying your poll tax for 1922.
"I Am The Law." adv.
Manager Payne is preparing to open Hotel Punta Gorda, the big tourist resort, on January 5th prox.
A Powell, a leading citizen of Bartow, was the guest here of the family of his daughter, Mrs. W. R. DeLoach, Tuesday and Wednesday.
See A. Bailey, manager of the People's Wood Yard, for all kinds of wood—stove, fireplace or long; pine or buttonwood charcoal. 50-1f
Mr. and Mrs. Loyal Barber, former residents of this town, were here in their car, Monday, when many friends were glad to meet them.
J. T. Griggs, popular grocer, went to Lakeland, Wednesday, to have his eyes treated by a specialist. He expected to return Thursday night.
Emmet Riley, after enjoying a part of the holidays here visiting his parents, Prof. and Mrs. A. E. Riley, returned to his work in Polk county, Wednesday.
Dr. Rudolph Stahley, an amiable and able retired clergyman of the Episcopal church who lives at Wulfert, attended the Christmas services in the local church, Monday.
It seems that Prof. Baker, principal of the local colored school, is the only local teacher who is attending the meeting in Saint Petersburg of the State Teachers' Association.
The Smith hotel and cafe are now open and under the personal management of Mrs. H. W. Smith. Excellent regular meals and ala carte service. Reasonable rates. 46-4f
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hayman of Winter Haven, were here in their car Sunday and Monday, when they were welcome holiday guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hayman.
S. B. Wright of DeLand, and Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Wright, Jr., of Jacksonville, accompanied by their two sons, were Christmas guests here of Mrs. Elva L. Harvey, aunt of the younger Mrs. Wright.
Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Jackson, having recently sold their beautiful home in Huntsville, Alabama, are now likely to become permanent residents of Punta Gorda, which would be very gratifying to their many local friends.
Miss Blanche Glenn, assistant demonstration agent for Hillsborough county, after a delightful holiday visit here to her aunt, Miss Blanche Blake, and her many friends, returned to her headquarters in Plant City, Wednesday.
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Allen, former citizens of this place who are now living at Micanopy, arrived here Saturday on a visit to the family of their daughter, Mrs. T. S. Griggs. Mr. Allen had to return to his duties Tuesday, but Mrs. Allen will remain for a week or two longer.

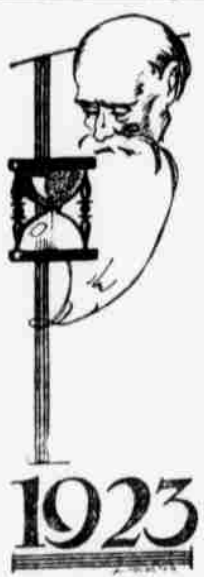
To vote February 20th, poll taxes must be paid by February 13th.
"I Am The Law." adv.
Fifteen days only in which to pay poll tax and be qualified to vote in bonding election February 20th.
Mrs. S. I. Huffman enjoyed Sunday and Monday in Arcadia as the guest of the family of her daughter, Mrs. Hoyt Carlton.
The ladies of the Methodist church will have a food sale Saturday, Dec. 30th. adv-1f
Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Sams and their little daughter of Wauchula, accompanied by the little girl's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Shaw, who have been visiting the Sams family, arrived here in their car yesterday, for a sojourn of a few days.
Ernest Smith has taken over the management of the meat department of the Smith grocery. This market is equipped with one of the largest and finest cold storage plants in South Florida and the only one in this county. 46-4f

Some of the orange buyers and shippers in this vicinity have already resumed operations. They may not fear an after-Christmas glut, which often occurs, but may have received advices that prices are holding up well. It is reported here that Arcadia will resume shipping next week.
Mrs. O. L. Williams of New York, who, for the past three weeks, has been visiting her mother, Mrs. J. A. Williams, and her sister, Mrs. J. H. Hancock, went to Orlando, Wednesday, to care for the children of her daughter, Mrs. Ted Southland, for three weeks, while the latter visits a sick sister in New York.
Attractive ten-acre farm, five-room cottage, few citrus trees, entire acreage cleared and fenced, ideal home for some one wishing to engage in farming and poultry raising, on state road number five, bordering city limits on southeast. Small cash payment, easy terms on balance. See the postmaster. 48-4f
Dr. and Mrs. Julian W. Jordan of Tampa, accompanied in their car by the latter's mother, Mrs. Sophia Jernain, and the former's sister, Miss Undine Jordan, arrived here Sunday morning, and were holiday guests of the parents of the Jordans, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Jordan, until Tuesday evening, when they returned to the Cigar City.
Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Wade and daughter, Miss Mabel, of Mayfield, Kentucky, arrived Wednesday night on a visit to Mr. Wade's father, C. W. Wade. The younger gentleman was an extensive tobacco planter, but recently sold his farms and home and is now looking around for a permanent location. It is hoped that he may attain his object here, for he and his family would be a valuable acquisition to our citizenship.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardee Harrison and daughters, Agnes and Alma, of Wauchula; Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Harrison and daughters, Louise and Edee, of Cleveland; Mr. Harold of Avon Park; Leon Davis of Cairo, Ga.; Mr. Vickers of Fort Myers, and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Harrison and daughters, Willie Mae, Beessie and Katie Lou, and son Robert of Punta Gorda, and R. B. Singletary of Cypress Swamps, Fla., enjoyed the hospitality of Capt. and Mrs. W. H. Walters at their home on Goldstein street on Christmas day, when a bounteous dinner was served.

PLAZA Theatre

Williams Stock Company
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, when admission will be 25c and 50c; and the following picture programs in conjunction.
MONDAY—NEW YEARS
"The Love Flower"
with RICHARD BATHLEMESS
A D. W. Griffith Special.
TUESDAY
"The Yellow Stain"
JOHN GILBERT
THURSDAY
"Foot Lights"
A PARAMOUNT SPECIAL.
FRIDAY
"Shirley of the Circus"
with SHIRLEY MASON
Also 8th Episode of "THE JUNGLE GODDESS"
SATURDAY
"Bob Hampton of Placer"
Also Sunshine Comedy "KIDS AND SKIDS"



Hail to 1923
May it bring you prosperity and 365 days of happy health.
May it bring you new friends and pleasures.
This then is our "Happy New Year" to you.

--and a Thought for the New Year

The World Turns 'Round to Look at a Well Dressed Man or Woman

Debate has ceased as to the value of clothes in man's or woman's success. Clothes portray character and people judge accordingly, whether they admit it to you or not.

It's the top clothes that are seen, but other articles of wearing apparel enter into the scheme and have their effect in the satisfied carriage of the well-dressed person.

To be well-dressed does not necessarily imply that one must be expensively dressed. One's circumstances must govern in this as in other matters; but our efforts are to make it easy for all persons to be as well dressed as their circumstances dictate.

In all lines of wearing apparel for men and women, we are prepared to meet the varying tastes and demands and are constantly showing bargains.

MAIN STORE NEAR P. O.
SEWARD'S
(Punta Gorda Dry Goods Company)
LADIES' STORE HEWITT BLDG.